

### Memorandum

To: Jennifer LaPoma, EPA Region 2

Stephanie Vaughn, EPA Region 2

Elizabeth Franklin, USACE

From: Keegan L. Roberts, Ph.D., PE, CDM Smith

Scott Kirchner, CDM Smith

Date: December 21, 2015

Subject: Summary of Oversight of SPME Sampler Installation Effort at River Mile 10.9

December 9–11, 2015

Lower Passaic River Restoration Project

On behalf of the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Kansas City District, CDM Federal Programs Corporation (CDM Smith) traveled to the River Mile (RM) 10.9 removal area on December 9, 10, and 11, 2015 and provided field technical oversight of the installation of solid-phase microextraction (SPME) samplers at seven of the planned ten locations. Three samplers were installed at each of these seven sample locations, including one each in the armor layer, the top of the reactive layer, and the underlying sediment bed. The duration for installing all three samplers at each location generally ranged from 45 to 60 minutes. The depths of these samplers were:

- A deep sampler, installed in the underlying sediment at approximately 36 inches below the mudline
- A mid-depth sampler, installed in the active layer at approximately 24 inches below the mudline
- A shallow sampler, installed in the armor layer at approximately 16 inches below the mudline

The field activities were conducted by AECOM on behalf of the Cooperating Parties Group (CPG). Prior to the field activities, EPA and the CPG discussed several iterations of sample locations in an attempt to accommodate the CPG's logistical and health and safety concerns. The SPME samplers installed by AECOM are part of the initial performance monitoring event for the RM 10.9 sediment cap. The SPME passive porewater samplers are intended to assess contaminant concentrations in the sediment bed, in the active cap layer, and in the armor stone layer of the RM 10.9 cap.

One set of three passive porewater samplers (Station 0602) was deployed in August 2015 and retrieved two months later, in October 2015. These samplers were to be part of the initial cap monitoring event that was to include SPME sampling at ten selected locations along the length of the RM 10.9 cap. However, due to logistical difficulties, samplers were only installed at Station 0602 during the August mobilization. Once it became clear that SPME samplers could not be installed at the other sampling locations, the CPG decided to leave these three samplers in place. During the December 2015 field effort, the CPG informed EPA oversight (Keegan Roberts) that they would not be resampling Station 0602, as was requested by EPA. The CPG stated that since the planned detection limits were met by the analytical laboratory for the Station 0602 samplers retrieved in October 2015, resampling was not necessary. Furthermore, the CPG stated that they would not be installing samplers at Stations 0609 and 0610, as they could not access these locations without wading through water above mid-calf deep, which would be contrary to their health and safety procedures for this field effort.

A brief summary of the work completed is as follows:

- On December 9, 2015, samplers were deployed at Stations 0606, 0607, and 0608.
- On December 10, 2015, samplers were deployed at Stations 0601, 0603, 0604, and 0605.
- On December 11, 2015, a duplicate set of samplers was deployed at Station 0607.
- Station 0602 was not resampled, and Stations 0609 and 0610 could not be accessed.

Both the proposed and actual SPME sample locations for this effort are presented in Figure 1. Photographs of field activities are presented in Attachment 1. A copy of the field logbook notes is provided in Attachment 2.

# **Summary of December 9, 2015 Field Activities**

### **Personnel in Attendance**

Keegan Roberts – CDM Smith
Yeqing Liu – CDM Smith
Helen Jones – AECOM
Rick Purdy – AECOM
Jennifer Reed – AECOM
Joel Meunier – AECOM
Claire Murphy-Higgin – AECOM
Patrick Felione – AECOM
Ben Bertolotti – AECOM (left prior to completion of field activities)

Prior to the start of the day's field activities, AECOM raised several safety considerations for the field effort during the tailgate safety briefing. The primary safety considerations pertaining to access to sample locations included:

- In-water work could only be performed if the combined air and water temperatures exceeded 100 degrees Fahrenheit. K. Roberts emailed Doug Simmons of AECOM to determine which U.S. Geological Survey water station on the Passaic River was used to determine water temperature. However, a response to this email inquiry was not received.
- Work could only be performed at locations where the combined sediment and water level would not exceed mid-calf on the field personnel.

These safety considerations were echoed by Ben Bertolotti, an AECOM health and safety manager who was on site. While observing the RM 10.9 cap from shore following this safety briefing, Helen Jones of AECOM noted that Stations 0609 and 0610 would be difficult to reach given the AECOM site safety considerations.

AECOM organized their six field personnel (excluding B. Bertolotti) into three teams: one 2-person onshore sampler preparation team, and two 2-person sampler deployment teams. Three samplers were deployed at each sample station: one in the armor layer, one in the top of the reactive layer, and one in the underlying sediment bed. All sampler preparation and deployment activities were to be performed in accordance with the QAPP (AECOM 2015).

Sample locations 0606, 0607, and 0608 were completed on December 9, 2015. The field team was able to install samplers at these locations as the water level remained below these locations until installation was complete.

AECOM field personnel noted that armor stone was not encountered during the sampler installation at Stations 0606 and 0607. Per AECOM, there was armor stone in the general vicinity of these stations, but the probes and installation rods did not encounter any stone at the actual sampler deployment locations. This lack of armor stone should be kept in consideration during the evaluation of data from these two locations.

# **Summary of December 10, 2015 Field Activities**

### **Personnel in Attendance**

Keegan Roberts – CDM Smith
Yeqing Liu – CDM Smith
Helen Jones – AECOM
Rick Purdy – AECOM
Jennifer Reed – AECOM
Joel Meunier – AECOM
Claire Murphy-Higgin – AECOM
Patrick Felione – AECOM
Channing Hawkins – AECOM

AECOM reiterated their site safety considerations during the daily tailgate safety briefing, and sampler installations progressed in the same manner as the previous day. AECOM installed the series of three samplers at Stations 0601, 0603, 0604, and 0605. The location for Station 0604 had to be moved approximately five meters toward the shore due to the thickness of the sediments above the cap at the planned installation location and AECOM's health and safety considerations, which prevented field personnel from working in sediments above mid-calf deep.

Rick Purdy of AECOM informed K. Roberts that the field team would not be resampling Station 0602, as requested by EPA. R. Purdy stated that the CPG had received the analytical results from the contract laboratory, and that the contract laboratory was able to meet the contaminant detection limits specified in the QAPP (AECOM 2015). R. Purdy further stated that the data from Station 0602 was still undergoing validation and, as such, had not yet been released.

AECOM attempted to access Stations 0609 and 0610, north of the boat launch, on foot from the shoreline south of the boat launch. Currently, Stations 0609 and 0610 cannot be accessed from the shore immediately adjacent to these sample locations due to thick vegetation and fencing along the shoreline. While attempting to access the shoreline north of the boat launch, AECOM field personnel encountered water depths of approximately two feet near the bulkhead. Due to AECOM's health and safety consideration of not entering any area where the combined sediment and water depth extended above mid-calf on the field personnel, AECOM could not access Stations 0609 and 0610.

K. Roberts informed the AECOM field team that if they could not access Stations 0609 and 0610, there were no additional sample locations south of the boat launch and within wadeable distance from shore that were of interest to EPA at this time and that could be accessed given AECOM's health and safety considerations. R. Purdy mentioned the possibility of renting a boat to access the shoreline near Stations 0609 and 0610, but did not commit to doing so.

## **Summary of December 11, 2015 Field Activities**

### **Personnel in Attendance**

Keegan Roberts – CDM Smith Rick Purdy – AECOM Jennifer Reed – AECOM Joel Meunier – AECOM Claire Murphy-Higgin – AECOM Patrick Felione – AECOM Channing Hawkins – AECOM

AECOM reiterated their site safety considerations during the daily tailgate safety briefing. A duplicate set of samplers was installed at Station 0607 per the QAPP (AECOM 2015) in the same manner as the previous two days. This location was chosen by AECOM as it is one of the closest stations to shore. K. Roberts inquired of R. Purdy why a boat was not being used to access Stations 0609 and 0610. R. Purdy stated that he did not know the specific reason why a boat was not being used. K. Roberts also inquired

why over the course of the field effort the portions of the samplers above the sediment bed were not being cut to reduce the length of sampler sticking into the water column, which could potentially snag debris or ice floating down the Passaic River. R. Purdy stated that the samplers were not cut to shorter lengths given the time that would be required to cut the samplers, and the time during which the tide would be low enough to allow the field team to work at the sample stations.

Once again, the AECOM field team could not access Stations 0609 and 0610 given the depth of the water (approximately two feet) overlying the sediment near the boat launch bulkhead.

Table 1 presents the status of the ten sample stations that were ultimately proposed for this effort.

### References

AECOM. 2015. Quality Assurance Project Plan, Lower Passaic River Restoration Project, River Mile 10.9 Post-Construction Monitoring – Draft. Rev. 1. December 4.

**Table 1: Status of Proposed Sample Stations** 

Station	Status
0601	Installation completed 12/10/2015. Sample location same as in final station location proposal.
0602	Station not resampled, despite request by EPA. Samplers deployed in August 2015 and retrieved in October 2015.
0603	Installation completed 12/10/2015. Sample location same as in final station location proposal.
0604	Installation completed 12/10/2015. Sample location five meters closer to shore than was directed in final station location proposal. Relocation due to AECOM field team health and safety concerns regarding access to the proposed location.
0605	Installation completed 12/10/2015. Sample location same as in final station location proposal.
0606	Installation completed 12/9/2015. Sample location same as in final station location proposal.
0607	Installation completed 12/9/2015. Sample location same as in final station location proposal.
0608	Installation completed 12/9/2015. Sample location same as in final station location proposal.
0609	Samplers not installed due to AECOM field team health and safety concerns regarding access to the proposed location.
0610	Samplers not installed due to AECOM field team health and safety concerns regarding access to the proposed location.

# Attachment 1 Photographs of Field Activities



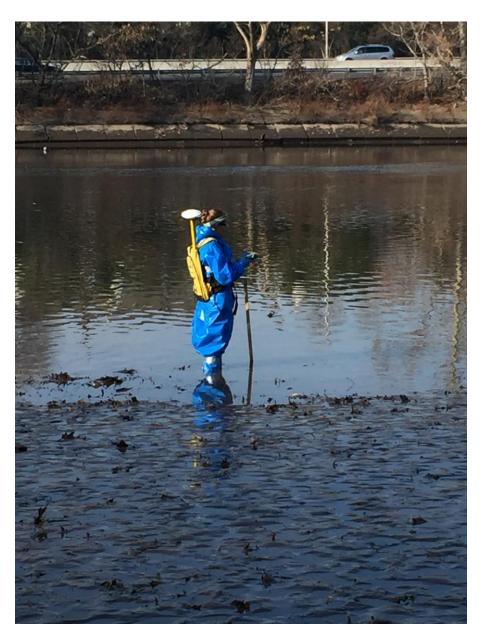
Photograph 1: Locating sample stations via GPS 12/9/2015



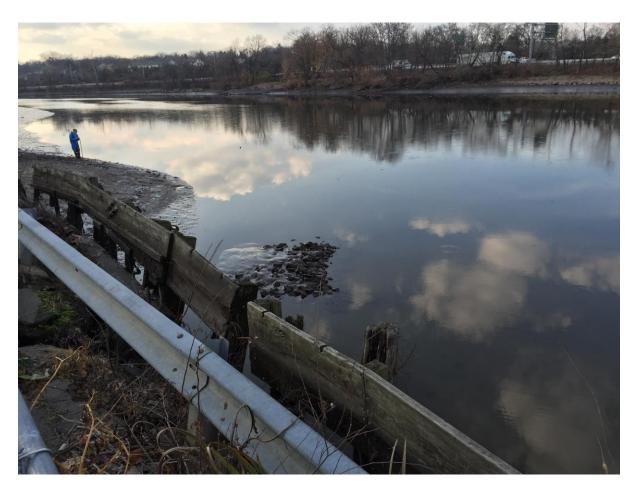
Photograph 2: Preparing to install samplers at Station 0608 12/9/2015



Photograph 3: Installing samplers at Station 0606 12/9/2015



Photograph 4: Locating Station 0603 12/10/2015



Photograph 5: Attempting to access Stations 0609 and 0610 12/10/2015



Photograph 6: Fence and undergrowth preventing access from shore to Stations 0609 and 0610 12/11/2015

# Attachment 2 Field Logbook Notes

PASSATC-RMIC, 9/1  M. 45° = OJERCAS  ROBERTS IS NOTE TO  ROBERTS ARRIMES  NO OTHER PARTIES THE  ROBERTS ARRIMES  NO OTHER PARTIES THE  ROBERTS ARRIMES  NO OTHER PARTIES  NOTE TO THER PARTIES  THAT IS AFELLOWN HAS IT  THAT IS AFELLOWN HAS IT  RESS THAN 100° F THE  PROSETT OF THE  RESS THAN 100° F THE  RESS T		1155				1150	PPE:	2 H&S leeves:	Equipment:	Work Plan:	otivity.		Field Team:		Weather:	Project/Client:
C-RMIO, 9/US.  JOJERCAST  PARTIES WELLES  OF PARTIES WELLES  THERE  CATROM PARTIES  THERE  CO THE STOLE  ABOUT MENTER  THERE  THERE  ABOUT MENTER  THERE  TH	d d	TO N	6 9	FAME SAME	CAP	Ha Tower		(11	ŏ.	CAL TE	CT	3 7	1. Rose	PM -	45	$(\tau$
PATINES OF AFERE PURCH FEW PATINGS OF AFERE PURCH FEW PU	ALD ALD	AFCCO AFCCO		2 5	Can'T	38	Tasp	AFOX PERCE	For F	ER	Jows	PARO	STS	,	F; OVE	. W.
STATE AND THE AREA OF THE AREA	C° FT	En	BEUND I	3 - 6	TO Y	the St	000		70	MENA OF	Par	TER	1 1		-	10.9
	7 6	NA		E. R	CIOLAN C	(7	2	2	F1		VEDY,	Sen C	3			SE

08h	1415	1330	1250	Date: 1249 Project/Client: 1220
BEFORE NOW SERVICE CONFIDENCE NOW SERVICE NOW SERVICE NOW SERVICE CONFIDENCE OF THE SERVICE OF T	CATION BECOME THE CONTRACTOR	THE PRINTERS	8 300	Do WALLENG TOUR OF SHE WEST PASSATC - RMID, 9 / USEPA  DO WALLENG TOUR OF SHE WEST PAECON  N JOHNS STATES THAT OGG9

SATIC -PM  POBERTS AG  OCLASTICALS  ENTAGENTS AG  AFECOM PRECEDIA  APANY PECETIA  COCATION  FOR WATER  APANY PECETIA  APANY PE				eta esta está está está está está está está está	-to in sketch of the entire or			PD	
PASSATE -RMIO: K.ROBERTS  PASSATE -RMIO: 9/USEPA  K. ROBERTS ARRIVES ON SITE WEATHER  NO ONE ELSE ON SITE WEATHER  SOUND AND 57%.  SAME AFROM PERSONNEL AS  PRECOM BEGINS SAFETY PRIFETA  PRECOM RECONDENT ABOVE MAD WALENCE  PURCH COCATED TO WALENCE  THEROM MARKES PROXIME PER  THEROM MARKES PROXIME  AFROM MARKES PROXIME  THEROM THEROM WHERE  THEY		739	À	233	1206	8	155	ite: 12/ oject/Clier	
4. 0	PROM WHERE	ATROM MARCES PROXIMEND	A SHOULD BE	LOCATION - 4" HO	KETTERATED NO WE WELL TO WE	ECOM PERSONEL RESIDENT GERMANTE	SUNNY AND 57°F. WEATHER AFECOM TEAM ON SHIPE IN	PASSATE - RMIO, 9/USEPA K. ROBERTS ARRIJES ON ST	9

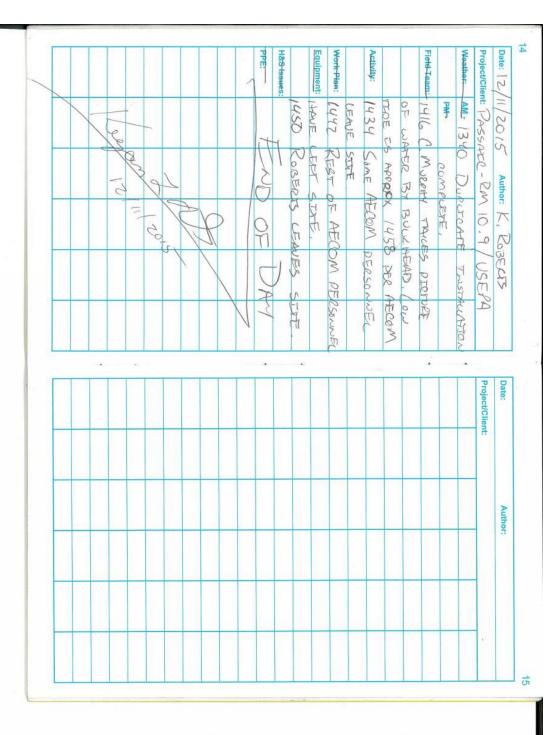
MIPASSATO - RMION K. ROBERTS  MIPASSATO - RMION / USEPA  MILON AEROM LOCATIONS SOLD AEROM LOCATIONS SOLD SEDEMENTS ABOUT  MILON SOLD SEDEMENTS ABOUT  MILON - CHALE ON M. MURRING IN.  MILON - CHALE ON M. MURRING IN.  MILON - CHALE ON M. MURRING STANCE POIN,  COGOLI COMPLETED FARCITE STANCE POIN,  MAT COGOS  MILON DETH OUTE ESTIMENT,  COMPLETE  TUSPECT ACCESS TO OCOS & OCIO  BY BUT ON OCOH, BUT S'M  LUNKNOUN DETH OUTE SEDEMENT,  PEONTH  PEONTH  TO CAND DE TO SEDEMENT,  PEONTH  PEONTH  MATER OF  MATERIAL OF  MATER OF  MATERIAL		1438		1430	6	11416	1406	ROCKE		PPE	H&S Issues:		Equipment:	Work Plan:		Activity			Field Team:		Weather:	Project/Client:	Date: 12/
ECON MARKS LOCATIONS  ECON LOCATING OCCATIONS  SEDEMENTS ABOVE  LOCATION COLLIES  WHERE ENSTAURTEDN TE  WHERE OF PARCITER  CEOS  WOLL WATER OF  CEOS  CE	0	0	3	A	1977	14		1242	MAY	0 <u>2</u> 15	0	MOJA	090	060	1	600	M LO	IS	1300 6		5	PA	12015
WENT OF STANDARY O	3	0600	9	になっ	7	603	O F	CATTON	BE	0	URPAY UP	E 711	Jy Locate	060	0 72	TUST TO STATE OF THE PERSON AND THE	16	SFOTME	COM L	3BY		2	1.Ro
	5	1	SEO IMENT,			P. P. P.	RCA		D 316	EDY SAYS	100	NI ACM	S		5	H-	M	S'	0			USEPA	323

1548	7 7 5	COM Forz PER	ARE PROPERTY.	THAT	DEPT SAUS	Project/Client: P
TO THE HA	CT THAT	PURDY A	OF TWIES	THAT THE	REACUENT	2015 ASSATO MURPHY
HUSTAL ATTE	RECEIVED RECEIVED	D D/10 Acian	ST. OCC	ARE NO ACTED	MATEL PROPS, 170 ARCESS TO	Author: K.ROBERTS - PM 10,9 USEPH - MEASURED ACCESS - MEASURED ACCESS - MEASURED WAFER OF
3	RESULTS	COCKSOCK STATES	THAT THAT	ADDITIONS AUNCH	P.COY WELL	USEPH ACCESS PODUTH



	PPE	H&S Issues:	Work Plan?	Activity:	Field Team:	Project/Client: Weather:
						1 Par
902					3	SATR - R
2	101				OF	SE SE
				8	3	DE USE
						72

		• •
	1300	Date:   2/1 Project/Client:   1240   1245
THE HENDER SENTETURNED PERSONS NOT THE FORMAL COCATIONS  DEBRIS OR THE . F	COSEST TO TO THE THE PEASE  LOCATIONS V  CATE THE PEASE  LOCATIONS V  CATE THE PEASE  CATE THE	M/20/5 Author: K. ROBERTS  THE PRESENTAL - ZIMIO, OL / USEDA  K. ROBERTS ARPSULES ON SITE  AFROM TEAM HERE SAME AS  YESTERDAY EXCEPT H. JONES ES  NOT HERE  PURDY COMPUCK SAFETY BRITEFELY  PURDY COMPUCK SAFETY BRITEFELY  PURDEN COMP

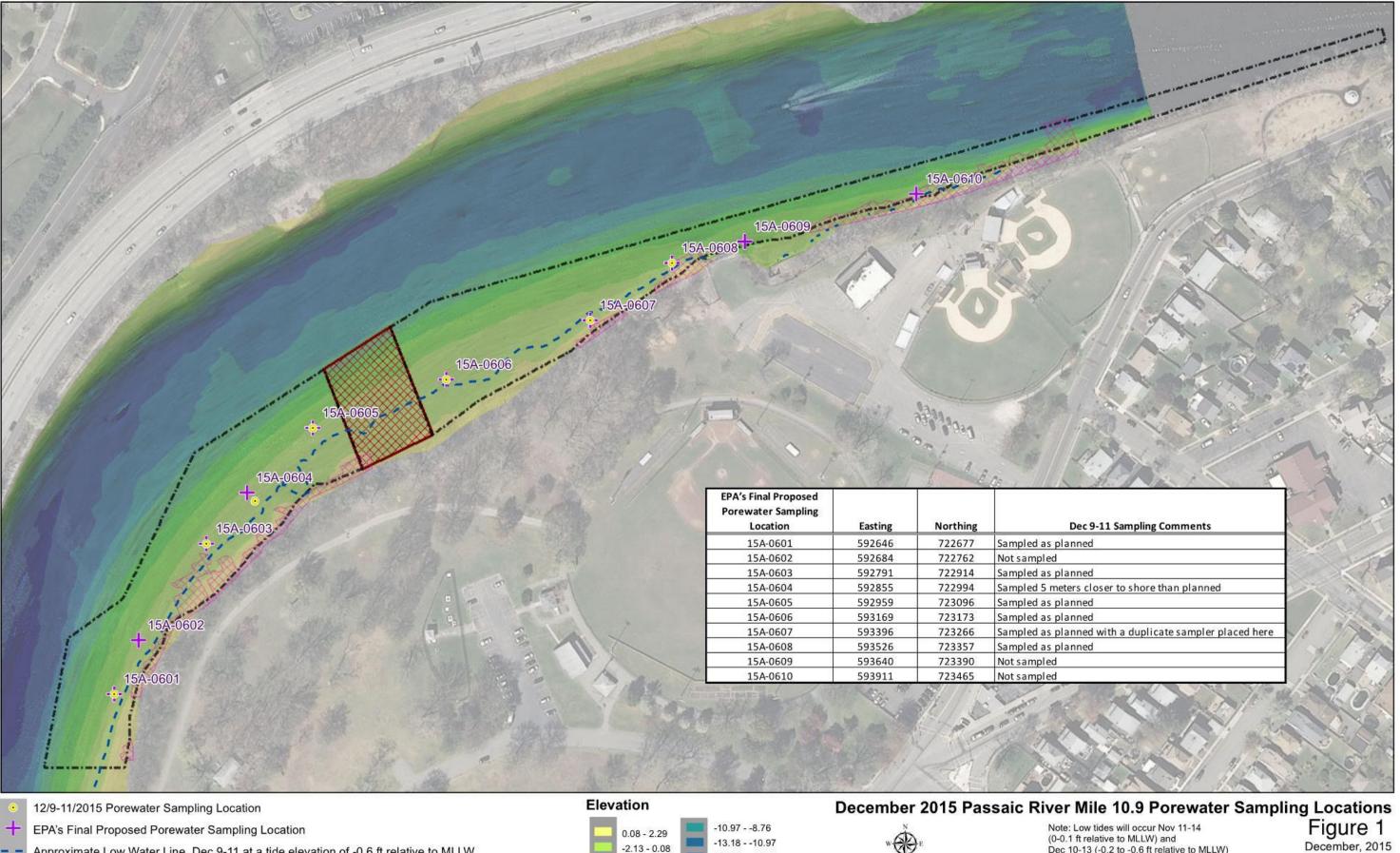


20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 20 2	& Jacquic & IDO MSFOA 12/11/15
Passaic Rm 10.9 MJEPA 12/9/15	Charle Clas Quin all Arphils delton
1130 Malka alum Slyste with	Green-deep amortisty not oclow sweethle
GPS to confirm campling locations	unierlying spriment as the is in 1804 - Saughe Weather 667 determined
Keegan Loberts has personiel	marked u wooder stick stake
list - see other lighbook	1309 sample location 608 determined
Weather 45 F Overlast	marked W/ woder Stake
11:50 Sully meeting with AE CON	1347-Porting St dimont around sample 100
Two tenns of the 60 and 602	1402-Degin slide hammenty at 608
low trave at 2:15. Walking stick rea.  Potential start at I pm	1405 First Sample dropped (Shallow).
Stay in sediment not doing	45 Side Haviner By Secret Colotton @ 608
into water the to airtwater temp less than 100 = combined.	actionatally over dove to depet spith
11:55 Den Berto Lotti (At Com) arrives	(Underly) of Reliment) NL 1425-2-2 Scampler (Noord House) P/9/15
12:20 Bearn sample location reconsigning	1425-22 Sampler Cropped (depent) 12/9/15 Reno tal of Siele nammer (Sound upon every)
12:36 Flagging Got and 610 identions	H27- Insertion of 2rd sampler (deep) top is lower than sediment Surface
sampleable - location appears not	11/5k property 1/2 1/4/15
12:45 Moring cars W/ equipment discr	Sample or head when we will write
to can a to locations trelat reple	a sistence by Rick
get drysed to prepare for sampling 607	MILE DY KICK

	Stick hambering by one toot Submersed in water  3rd samples mitable. (Miled depth)  stept sampling occation 608  Moved to 607 sampling location  Begin problem at location 607  Toel Petrums to 608 sample bourton  to find lost tem - piece of  Slick hamber. Gid not find.  Brings extra piece of Slick  hamber from car  Degin slick hambers with rest  Soft sampler Inserted Costalistics  State hamber at 2nd location  And sampler Inserted Court below  State hamber at 3nd location  Tivel and account the fints  Via 19115 and location  Tivel and complex installed (in  under lyring sediment - located depth)  Called account	12 to Alerted to field feath's location Wather and joined years so  or teegan that Pobets has  sums personall location Currently field team is preparing equipment Claire is surveying for  Air + water temp above 100 = 50  okay to go juts water but still  not above mid colf (sediment + water  Combined Rick Says At com has  been and preparing and waiting for  the tide since both  1300 First field team racks 602  1305 Redirected to Gol (602 will  be sampled last today)  1310 Suping out sampling weaton - Inding  Field fearm is mid calf to just  be low the kness in write  1312 Firld team taking selbses  1316 Side Hammer at Tsample location  1320 First Sampler institut casing removed  Field fearm is and less to midfalf in  Water 1st sampler Weaton @
15:46	Finished installation. Jean packing up  Y LIM leaves site  12/19/15	Shallow depth (armor layer) morked white tape

Passaic	1405 3 otherwise puring by ask ten
10 00 C 1 2 1 2 1 2 1 2 1 2 1 2 1 2 1 2 1 2 1	1405 3 ota sales pusing by ask Jen
1326 Scoping out 2nd sampler bocation	about what is happening
accidentally proved past grotexthe	Jen answers back - do no some sampling
layer so depost sampler will be	1415 Rick & Del evaluated GOA and
installed next	1415 Rick & Del evaluated GON and
1331 Probing Stick removed. Slide rammer	
inserted.	hear Goat dock Rick is not contacting up
1335 2nd sampler installed (deepest	1935 a redestran passing asks - eventions
depth - underlying sediment) Casing	Rick responds day river sedings
removed	sampling : EPA & athers are involved
1340 Probing for 3rd Sampling location	1436 Freld fram preps to sample at
1341 Slice hammer retroeved from clean	66 Y 4 1345/1748/15 604 Weation
storage area at the base of riprap	Rtak indicates this convert location
next to sedine ht ~ 20-25 ft away	is 5 metos inland of originallication
Samplers are also kept here and	445 2rd field team amires at 605
retrented before each installation,	location
13:45 Claire comes or confirm GPS	1447 First field from (at 604) poling
Coordinates. Freld team pegins	for Birst Sample Weatin
13:47 3rd sampler retrieved token from	1452 Feld personnel naturns to retrieve one
13:47 3rd samples retrieved token from	sampler
storage area	1952 Slide hammer at GOS
13.49 3rd Sampler installed asing	Still probing at 604
removed.	1456 Slide hanns at 604
13 51 3rd Sample labled yellow (mid dopth)	1455 Shallow surp ler in stalled (1st
tothe just below restertile	schipler - dirwor layer - Evdell reel)
13 JS death me weret taken	Field tam at GO4 ) int below
1359 Ringth on Panishent & Howe 1944 601	knees in sediment. Taking measurets
15 15 10 12 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15 15	0

JULINION PUSSAIC USEPA 12/10/15
1500 GPS wardwies
1500 GPS werdrates
1808 Slide hammenty at 2rd sempling Cocation
1507 Second Sampler installed amiddle
depth ) not below geo box the Pabric Goods
Wiles
1512 Stide hamming at 3rd sangering
Western West (1921 1942)
1515 3rd sampler installed (despect depth)
15 21 Tol returns to equipment rents
bons back something
dyplicates sampling (6 total Samples)
15 21 Toll returns to equipment tranto bring backe something diplicates sampling (6 total stupler) planted at 604
1529 Field tam carently waiting
15 31 See March 12 Strate Strates Dates
Indicates displicate campling plans will be a partial due to rising the poor
10101
15/23 Team begnes packing up equence
1533 From Supply water Go 4 1537 Feld kameralinates 604 location
1537 Feld fram Evaluates 605 literation
1551 Yhin Haves ste
U22 12/10/15



12/9-11/2015 Porewater Sampling Location

EPA's Final Proposed Porewater Sampling Location

Approximate Low Water Line, Dec 9-11 at a tide elevation of -0.6 ft relative to MLLW

River Mile 10.9 Dredged Area

No Dredge Zone

Hard Pan

# 0.08 - 2.29 -2.13 - 0.08 -4.34 - -2.13 -6.55 - -4.34 -8.76 - -6.55 Bathymetry survey by GBA, June 2015

# w € E 0 100 200 Feet

DRAFT: NOT FOR DISTRIBUTION

Note: Low tides will occur Nov 11-14
(0-0.1 ft relative to MLLW) and
Dec 10-13 (-0.2 to -0.6 ft relative to MLLW)
Tide predictions for station located
upriver at 40.8483° N, 74.1200° W
(Subject to Attorney Client, Work Product,
and/or Deliberative Process Privileges,
and the Joint Prosecution and Confidentiality Agreement;
Not for Public Release; FOIA/OPRA Exempt)

CDM Smith